UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 04-6637

KEITH LEMONT SANDERS,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

GENE M. JOHNSON, Director of the Virginia
Department of Corrections,

Respondent - Appellee.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern
District of Virginia, at Norfolk.   Raymond A. Jackson, District
Judge. (CA-03-411-2)

Submitted: August 25, 2004   Decided: September 3, 2004

Before WIDENER, WILLIAMS, and KING, Circuit Judges.

Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Keith Lemont Sanders, Appellant Pro Se. Steven Andrew Witmer,
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF VIRGINIA, Richmond, Virginia, for
Appellee.

PER CURIAM:

Keith Lemont Sanders seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). An appeal may not be taken from the final order in a habeas corpus proceeding unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1) (2000). A certificate of appealability will not issue absent "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2) (2000). A prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that his constitutional claims are debatable and that any dispositive procedural rulings by the district court are also debatable or wrong. See Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 336 (2003); Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); Rose v. Lee, 252 F.3d 676, 683 (4th Cir 2001). We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Sanders has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny Sanders' motion to proceed on appeal in forma pauperis, deny his motion for a certificate of appealability, and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED